

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00448 142043Z

53

ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7445

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ET, TZ, SU

SUBJ: TANZANIA BACKS SUDANESE PEACE INITIATIVE IN ETHIOPIA

1. SPEAKING AT AIRPORT EN ROUTE TO OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN ADDIS ABABA, TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FEBRUARY 12 ENDORSED SUDANESE PRESIDENT NIMEIRY'S PEACE INITIATIVE IN ETHIOPIA, AND SAID AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK FOR CEASEFIRE NOW TO PAVE THE WAY TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. AFRICAN STATES SHOULD DO NOTHING WHICH MIGHT UNDERMINE NEMEIRY'S INITIATIVE, WITH ITS RECENT PAST HISTORY, SUDAN WAS CAPABLE OF EVOLVING THE PEACEFUL SOLUTION WHICH AFRICA AND ETHIOPIA NEEDED.

2. ON SAME DAY, GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS EDITORIALY DEPLORED BLOODSHED IN ERITREA AND ENDORSED NEMEIRY CEASEFIRE PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, EDITORIAL FIRMLY ENDORSED TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ETHIOPIA, INCLUDING ERITREA, AND SAID THAT CALLS FOR SECESSION WEWE BOTH VERY ILLADVISED AND POSSIBLY INSPIRED BY ENEMIES OF AFRICA. AT SAME TIME, DAILY NEWS RECOGNIZED THAT THE PEOPLE OF ERITREAN PROVINCE DID HAVE GENUINE GRIEVANCES --- "THEY WOULD NOT TAKE UP ARMS JUST FOR THE SAKE OF IT." --- AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHOULD HELP ETHIOPIA "FIND THE ROOT CAUSES OF THE
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00448 142043Z

PROBLEM AND FIND THE SOLUTION."

3. COMMENT: ALL THIS IS IN LINE WITH TANZANIA'S USUAL AFRICAN
POLOCIES OF ENDORSING THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF AFRICAN
STATES(THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR WAS AN EXCEPTION), AND
SUPPORTING THE SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL AND NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS.
BEYER

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